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Ship design inspiration for addition

This project consisted of a 5,000-square-foot (465-m²) addition to the 10,000-square-foot (929-m²) **Northlake-Barbara Loar Branch Library in Tucker, Ga.** The existing space was completely renovated to create a cohesive 15,000-square-foot (1,394-m²) library. Functions were reorganized to provide larger reading and stack areas, in addition to a larger children's library area, new teen area and additional administration space.

The addition reflects the ship metaphor of the existing design by extending a prow toward the parking that directs pedestrians to the entrance, while creating an interior children's library space in the hull of the ship.

ALPOLIC, Chesapeake, Va., supplied 0.16-inch- (4-mm-) thick ACM panels for the ship's hull and column covers. Kingspan Benchmark, Columbus, Ohio, supplied 22-gauge, 2-inch- (51-mm-) thick poly-iso insulated, laminated wall panels. McElroy Metal, Bossier City, La., supplied 24-gauge Medallion-Lok 16-inch (406-mm) double pencil rib panels in Terratone. All panels featured a standard Kynar coating.

ACM panels were selected for their ability to conform to the complex geometry of the ship's hull. Its superior durability, panel flatness, uniformity and range of color choices added to the material's value.

DeKalb County Public Library, Decatur, Ga., is the project owner; Richard Wittschiebe Hand, Atlanta, was the architect; Hogan Construction Group, Norcross, Ga., was the construction manager; Altech Panel Systems, Cartersville, Ga., fabricated the ACM panels; and Carros Metal Concepts, Winston, Ga., was the installer.

ALPOLIC,
www.alpolic-usa.com, Circle #72

Kingspan Benchmark,
www.kingspanpanels.us, Circle #73

McElroy Metal,
www.mcelroymetal.com, Circle #74